

REMARKS

The specification has been amended to insert a statement that the present application is the National Stage of International Application No. PCT/EP2003/010575, filed September 23, 2003.

Claims 4, 9, and 10 have been amended as set forth above to eliminate multiple dependencies. Support for these amendments is found in original claims 4, 9, and 10, respectively. See, *In re Gardner*, 177 USPQ 396, 397 (CCPA 1973) and MPEP §§ 608.01(o) and (l).

Claims 11-13 are added to cover the subject matter cancelled from claims 4, 9, and 10, respectively. Support for these amendments is found in original claims 4, 9, and 10, respectively. See *id.*

It is submitted that no new matter has been introduced by the foregoing amendments. Approval and entry of this Preliminary Amendment prior to examination on the merits, and allowance of all the claims, respectfully, are requested. If the Examiner has any questions regarding this paper, please contact the undersigned attorney.

Respectfully submitted,

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